Risk Management is the Safety Net

Report, Report, Report!
Keeping Your Back Safe

✓ Follow the guidelines

✓ Associates are responsible and will be held accountable

✓ Use proper lift equipment or ask for help
Proper Lifting Technique
Gait Belts – Moving Patients
Using a Gait Belt
Lifting Overhead Objects

The heavier the object, the shorter distance it should be lifted.

- If the object must be lifted higher, assistance or a machine should be utilized.
- In the case of mandatory occupational lifting, positions or loading platforms should be adjustable to the height of different people.
- Try not to reach when lifting items higher than chest level. Lifting objects higher than chest level puts considerably more stress on your lower back.

When lifting items above your head, make sure to use a stool or a ladder.
For Jobs that Require Sitting

- **Change positions every 45 minutes to an hour to avoid strains/pain**

- **If unable to change positions, place a small rolled towel behind the small of your back for additional support**
Promoting a Safe Environment

Use back safety techniques in:

- Moving patients
- Lifting objects
- Sitting for long periods

Safety is important for both the Associate and the patient!
Preventing the Spread of Infection

Watch for the Warning Signs
The Impact of Health Care Acquired Infections

- 4th Leading cause of death in U.S.
- Increases hospital cost by average of $13,973
- Increases hospital stay by 7.68 days
- Results in loss per case of $5,436.
- Can cost an additional $40,000 for an individual patient

“It is absolutely a matter of life and death.”
Purpose of Infection Prevention

Identify:

- How infections are spread
- How to protect patients and visitors
- How to protect yourself
Who is Responsible?

All of us:

- Greeting customers
- Patient care
- Food handling
- Supply chain
For Infection to Occur

An organism must:

- Enter the body
- Grow and multiply
- Cause a response
Breaking the Chain of Infection

- **Reservoir**
  - People
  - Food
  - Equipment
- **Portal of Exit**
  - Respiratory System
  - GI & GU System
- **Portal of Entry**
  - GI System
  - GU System
- **Transmission**
  - Direct Contact
  - Indirect Contact
  - Airborne
  - Food Handling
  - Air Flow
- **Susceptible Host**
  - Elderly & Young
  - Diabetes
  - People
  - Invasive
  - Chronic Illness
- **Infecting Agents**
  - Bacteria
  - Parasites
  - Viruses
- **Immunizations**
- **Aseptic Technique**
- **Wound Care**
- **Catheter Care**
- **Treat Diseases**

Stop sign

Rapid, accurate identification of organisms
Handwashing
Cleaning, Disinfecting, & Sterilization
Employee Health
Handwashing
Barrier Precautions
Control of Body Substance
Trash & Waste Disposal
Standard & Disease Transmission Precautions
Bloodborne Pathogen Standard

- OSHA 1990
- Signs/symptoms
  - HIV
  - Hepatitis B & C
  - chance of transmission
  - general rules
Standard Precautions

- Cover cuts, scrapes, broken skin
- Handle and dispose of sharps carefully
- Work to minimize splashes
- Keep food and drinks where they belong, refrigerator/freezers for food only
- No eating or drinking in patient care or work areas where contamination may occur
- No application of cosmetics, lip balm or handling of contacts in such areas
- Label all specimens – package and handle appropriately
Standard Precautions

- All laundry contaminated
- Lab has special equipment to prevent exposures
- PPE – know where it is, how and when to use it
- Employee Health Program – Must be offered HB vaccine, if at risk. Know your immune status. Those who do exposure prone procedures must also know HIV status.
- Don’t touch broken glass with hands
- Never reach into trash
- Replace or report full sharps containers
- Clean up or report spills
Standard (Universal) Precautions

- Consider all patients potentially infectious
- Use appropriate barrier precautions at all times
Hand Hygiene

The most important measure you can use to prevent the spread of infection!
Hand Hygiene

- Before and after patient contact
- After removing gloves
- After any contact with secretions or contaminated items
- Before handling food
- After use of restroom
- Alcohol hand hygiene product may be used except ...
• **Blood, body fluids, mucous membranes, or non-intact skin of all patients**

• **Items or touching surfaces contaminated with blood or body fluids**

• **Wash hands after removing gloves**
Protect against splashes of blood or other body fluids.
During procedures that are likely to generate splashes of blood or other body fluids.
Needles and Sharps

- Use appropriate sharps containers
- Discard used sharps immediately
- Avoid recapping needles
Blood/Body Fluid Exposures

- **Immediately wash! Flush membranes with water.**
- **Report exposures IMMEDIATELY to Employee Health or House Supervisor if after hours**
- **Fill out variance report**
- **Go to Employee Health as soon as possible**
- **Explanation of follow-up**
Additional Precautions

- Follow appropriate transmission-based precautions
- Dispose of trash properly
- Bag all used linen
- Follow procedures for patient care
- Follow appropriate cleaning and disinfecting procedures
Tuberculosis

- Signs/symptoms
- Transmission
- Screen/report/isolate
- Prevention/protection
- Air flow monitors
Infectious Waste

• Red tubs
• What goes in?
  ✓ Isolation waste
  ✓ Sharps in containers
  ✓ Waste saturated, caked or able to drip infectious body fluids.
  ✓ Cultures and stocks of infectious agents
  ✓ Unfixed tissue from surgery, pathology, autopsy

CAUTION
INFECTIONOUS WASTE
Handle with Care

Christus Hospital
St. Elizabeth & St. Mary
Cough Etiquette

CDC cover your cough campaign
Anyone with cough:

- Offer tissues or mask
- Cough into sleeve or tissue
- Hand hygiene after

Barricade Your Cough!
Employee Health

- Practice good personal hygiene
- Obtain immunizations
- At least annual PPD screening
- Report exposures to communicable diseases
- Work restrictions for some infections
- Other
Employee Health

Work restrictions:

• *Fever, pink eye*

• *Some infections restricted from patient contact or high-risk patients only*
Questions or Concerns

Call Infection Control

ST. ELIZABETH... x3838
ST. MARY... x5870

Cindy Powers
Connie Keeton
Gerald Duhon